

REMARKS

Claims 2 and 11 are amended to correct the indefiniteness cited by the Examiner.

The Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter in Claims 3-6, 7, 9, 10, 14, 15, and 16-23 is appreciated. Amendment of the allowable claims depending from rejected Claim 1 into independent form is held in abeyance pending the Examiner's consideration of the amendment of Claim 1 herein and the points raised herein as to the patentability thereof.

Claim 1 is amended to recite the configuration of the traveler 25 positioned within the upper body 10 and driven as a follower on the threaded shaft 20 for effecting reciprocating longitudinal motion of the upper body simulating the motion of a penis (see Figs. 1 and 11, and description on Page 7, Line 19, to Page 8, Line 3). The amendment to Claim 1 is fully supported in the Specification as originally filed, and no new matter is deemed to have been added by this amendment.

In contrast, the cited Lee U.S. Patent 5,676,637 describes an instrument for rectal insertion in which a short probe is extendable from a box-like base housing into the rectum of a user. The extension of the probe is driven by a screw shaft which threads out from a fixed stanchion in a reverse-traveler-follower arrangement. Thus, the Lee device is clearly distinguishable from the traveler-follower positioned in the longitudinally reciprocating upper body in amended Claim 1. In the Lee device, the reverse-traveler-follower arrangement is positioned in a fixed position within the base housing, and is not positioned in the upper body that reciprocates in the body cavity for simulating the motion of a penis. Therefore, amended Claim 1 is now deemed to be patentably distinct from the Lee reference, as well as all of Claims 2-15 depending therefrom.

As to Claims 24-30 which were rejected on the basis of Sandvick U.S. Patent 6,368,268, further in view of Bowman U.S. Patent 6,332,163), main Claims 24 and 25 are amended to recite the novel arrangement of enabling users outfitted with sex toys and A/V equipment having an network or Internet connection (i-conn) to connect to a provider site and receive 3 tiers of

complementary user services from the same host network platform. The 3 tiers include the Administrator (user validation and connection), Host (providing services to the user), and Affiliated Play Host (third party providing services to the user). As described in the second paragraph on Page 19 to the second paragraph on Page 27, and as summarized in the second paragraph on Page 19, the unique 3-tiered service structure is established to handle the required administrative functions of the system while also offering hosted services and third-party services to facilitate easy expansion of the many and diverse applications to the potential audiences of users. Upon validation and connection of users with i-connn enabled sex toys by the Administrator tier for access to services on the provider site, users can access the Host tier which can provide hosted services to any number of users in one-on-one interactions, groups, communities or clusters of interests. As a further expansion of services, users can also access the Affiliated Play Host (APH) tier which can provide hosted services from any number of other (third-party) sites offering interactive or group services. As is typical of the adult entertainment industry, users can have interests in thousands of sites covering every conceivable theme, fantasy, or subject area. In this 3-tier system, a user with i-connn enabled sex toys can be validated and connected for access to entire ranges of hosted and third-party interactive sex services through their locally operated sex toys.

In contrast, the Sandvick patent discloses a host site that can connect a user to one or more other users for interactive sex play, but does not suggest providing affiliated third-party services on the same provider platform. This limitation requires the user to search out other host sites for other services and therefore diminishes the utility and business efficacy of the hosted services platform. The Bowman patent is only a general reference for providing different tiers of services through site server management, but does not specifically suggest a 3-tier system in which users with i-connn enabled sex toys can be validated and connected for access to entire ranges of hosted and third-party interactive sex services through their locally operated sex toys.

Therefore, amended Claims 24 and 25 are now deemed to be patentably distinct from the Sandvick and Bowman references, as well as all of Claims 26-30 depending therefrom.